

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza officially opens to the public

Hong Kong, November 20, 2025 – To mark Hong Kong Maritime Week 2025, the Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM) announced today (November 20) that its Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza is now officially open. Located behind Central Piers 9 and 10 and representing an extension of the museum to the Central Harbourfront, the free-to-visit plaza not only showcases the anchor of the *Seawise Giant*, but also features a walkthrough pavilion with immersive ArtTech displays and interactive screens. A brand-new addition to Victoria Harbour's waterfront, this interactive public learning and entertainment space showcases Hong Kong's rich maritime cultural heritage and the diversity of its marine life.

The opening ceremony was held at 5:30 pm at the plaza. Mr. S.F. Wong, Director of Marine, Mr. Anthony Hardy, BBS, Emeritus Chairman of HKMM, Ms. Queenie Lau, Deputy Executive Manager, Charities of The Hong Kong Jockey Club, Ms. Sabrina Chao, BBS, JP, Norwegian Honorary Consul, Mr. Alan Tung, JP, Managing Director of Island Navigation Corporation International Limited, Mr. Richard Hext, Chairman of HKMM, Mr. Richard Kendall, Director & Chief Executive of HKMM and Mr. Tat Lai Wong, Co-founder of ARTA Architects, attended and officiated as ribbon-cutting guests. At 6:00 pm, the plaza was officially open to the public for free admission.

Mr. Richard Kendall, Director & Chief Executive of HKMM said, "We are very excited about the opening of the Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza. We anticipate that this extension to the Hong Kong Maritime Museum will become a new cultural landmark in Central. In the plaza the museum will showcase Hong Kong's rich maritime history and culture, which we hope will actively inspire the public's understanding and enthusiasm for maritime matters and their importance in the development of Hong Kong as a global port city."

Mr. Tat Lai Wong, Co-founder of ARTA Architects said, "As a young architectural firm in Hong Kong, we are delighted to have been given this opportunity to create an iconic design at the harbourfront. Our design of the pavilion is formed from different profiles of boats over time to create a conceptual reinterpretation of traditional and modern boat forms, and we hope that the Anchor Plaza will be able to tell many stories of the ships and the sea to the public."

### Introduction of the Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza

Funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust through the Chief Executive's Community Project list, the plaza is focused around the 36-tonne, 7-metre-high anchor of the *Seawise Giant*, the largest cargo vessel ever built, symbolising the preservation of Hong Kong's maritime heritage. It also features a walkthrough pavilion with immersive ArtTech displays and interactive screens, providing a brand-new interactive public learning space that showcases Hong Kong's rich maritime cultural heritage. The plaza, which is free to visit, officially opened to the public at 6:00 pm on 20 November 2025.



Additionally, the HKMM will host a free family fun day on 22 November 2025 from 10:00 to 19:00. The public will not only be able to visit the museum for free but also experience the newly opened Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza.

Further details about the Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza can be found on the website: <a href="https://www.hkmaritimemuseum.org/hong-kong-maritime-museum-jockey-club/anchor-plaza">https://www.hkmaritimemuseum.org/hong-kong-maritime-museum-jockey-club/anchor-plaza</a>

### Plaza's Highlights

#### Anchor of the Seawise Giant

The 36-tonne Seawise Giant anchor, which originally had 20 shackles of chain (about 27.4 m per shackle), is 7 m long in the shank, 4.45 m across the flukes and 1.13 m thick. This anchor was once installed on Seawise Giant, the largest cargo vessel ever built. The ship, once owned by Hong Kong shipping magnate Mr. C.Y. Tung, and subsequently sailing under a variety of other owners and names, was dismantled on the beaches of Gujarat, India, in 2010 after 35 years of service. Its anchor was later acquired by the museum's Emeritus Chairman, Mr. Anthony Hardy, BBS. It was a considerable challenge to move the anchor from Gujarat to the Government Dockyard in Hong Kong, where it has been in temporary storage since June 2010. The anchor stands as a symbol of the vessel's former glory, embodying Hong Kong's rich and storied maritime heritage. On 27 March 2025, the anchor was transported by road from the Stonecutters Island Government Dockyard to the Central harbourfront, marking the final steps toward the plaza's highly anticipated grand opening.

#### Walkthrough Pavilion with Immersive ArtTech Displays

A short video playing inside the pavilion features two chapters: "Our Ocean" and "Development of Vessels." Through this video, the museum aims to introduce the public to the vibrant marine environment of Hong Kong waters, home to over 5,000 species of marine flora and fauna. The video also illustrates the different types of vessels serving Hong Kong over the ages that have been developed with advancements in technology, making it safer to navigate over longer distances. The *Seawise Giant* and its anchor are also featured in the video. Stepping inside the pavilion allows visitors to journey through different eras alongside Hong Kong's harbour.

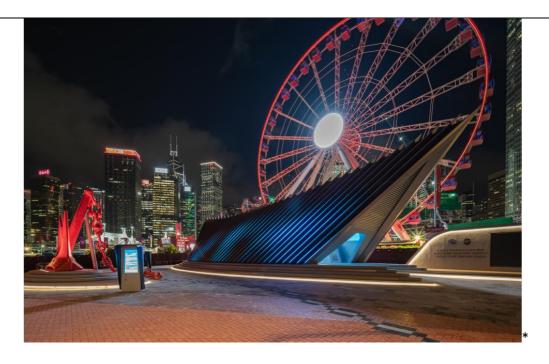
#### **Modern Design to Interpret Maritime History**

The plaza, custom-designed by ARTA Architects, reinterprets the significance of maritime history by taking a contemporary approach. The design of the pavilion draws inspiration from traditional boat forms, interplaying and echoing with the anchor of the *Seawise Giant*. To better showcase the anchor, the designers created a set of wave-inspired concrete steps that not only highlight modern architectural aesthetics but also provide a relaxing space for visitors to gather and enjoy the harbourfront. Through the plaza, the museum and designers aim to connect people and architecture with maritime heritage and the ocean.



Press images are available for download <u>here</u>.

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HKMM announced today (November 20) that the Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza is now officially open to the public.



Mr. Richard Kendall, Director & Chief Executive of HKMM to deliver welcome speech.



Mr. Tat Lai Wong, Co-founder of ARTA Architects to introduce the design concept.





Guests officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, celebrating the opening of the Hong Kong Maritime Museum Jockey Club Anchor Plaza.

Picture (From left to right): Mr. Tat Lai Wong, Co-founder of ARTA Architects, Mr. Richard Hext, Chairman of HKMM, Ms. Sabrina Chao, BBS, JP, Norwegian Honorary Consul, Mr. Anthony Hardy, BBS, Emeritus Chairman of HKMM, Mr. S.F. Wong, Director of Marine, Ms. Queenie Lau, Deputy Executive Manager, Charities of The Hong Kong Jockey Club, Mr. Alan Tung, JP, Managing Director of Island Navigation Corporation International Limited and Mr. Richard Kendall, Director & Chief Executive of HKMM.





The Seawise Giant anchor weighs 36 tonnes, and its shank is 7 m long. The anchor once belonged to the Seawise Giant, the largest cargo vessel ever built.







The walkthrough pavilion with immersive ArtTech displays.



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#### **NOTES TO EDITOR**

### **About the Hong Kong Maritime Museum**

The Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM) is an independent, non-profit registered charity founded by members of the Hong Kong shipping industry, supported by the business community, individuals and the Hong Kong SAR Government. As a cultural institution, we are dedicated to showcasing and preserving the maritime heritage and contemporary marine environment of Hong Kong and the South China Sea. Rooted in China, but looking to the world, we aim to inspire people's appreciation of their relationship with the sea. By connecting East and West, maritime cultural heritage and sustainable ocean development, we delve into the profound ties between people and the sea. Through our rich exhibitions and educational programs, we hope to cultivate public passion and respect for maritime culture and promote the sustainable development of the marine environment. For more information, visit www.hkmaritimemuseum.org.

### **Ticketing information**

Adults: HK\$30 Seniors (aged 60 or above), full-time students (with valid ID), children (under 18) and people with disabilities (accompanied by a carer): HK\$15

\*Discounts are available for group visits of 10 or more.

For the latest update on ticketing, opening hours and social distancing information, please visit <a href="https://www.hkmaritimemuseum.org">www.hkmaritimemuseum.org</a>

#### Venue

Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Central Pier 8

Follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> (@hongkongmaritimemuseum) for the latest updates on the exhibition.

### For media enquiries, please contact:

Liz Leung
Head of Marketing
Hong Kong Maritime Museum
+852 3713 2508
lizleung@hkmaritimemuseum.org

Cherry Hung
Assistant Marketing Manager
Hong Kong Maritime Museum
+852 3713 2518
cherryhung@hkmaritimemuseum.org